

Concerning a Certain Magazine Solicitor.

H. RANDALL MADELEY, M. D.
727 Sonoma Street
Vallejo, California

January 29, 1942.

Dear Dr. Kress:

There is a person, one Charles Sullivan, soliciting magazine subscription business through the doctors of the State. He has used my name many times and in many different ways to help him gain admittance to doctors' offices, and aid him in the sales he makes.

I have on a few occasions refunded money to doctors when their magazines were not forthcoming, which practice I do not intend to continue any longer.

On several occasions he has accepted money prior to the delivery of magazines and then failed to turn in the subscriptions. I have in my possession definite proof of this. I have also received many phone calls from doctors inquiring about him, when, two or three months after they have paid him, they still have not received their magazines.

It is my desire if possible, to have a notice published in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE that I am in no way connected with this person, and that I cannot be responsible for money paid him, for which materials have not been received.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) H. RANDALL MADELEY, M. D.

Concerning a Bad Check Passer.

To the Editor:—Several days ago a man appeared in my office, who was about fifty years of age; he was moderately dressed, with smoking jacket. He claimed to be working for the Southern Pacific, and employed in the capacity of Defense Freight Dispatcher.

I examined him, and he gave me a check for \$6.55, made out to him and signed by R. E. Baldwin; it was made out on the Palace Hotel Branch of the Bank of America. We cashed the check for him, giving him change. Subsequent events seemed to indicate that the patient was phony, and the check was equally phony. The bank denied having an account under that name and Mr. E. E. Larabee, the patient, was apparently an imposter.

I am writing this in the hope that you will warn other physicians in this area as he will, no doubt, return and get other suckers.

Yours very truly,
_____, M. D.

Concerning a Woman (hospitalized?) Who Is Fictitious Check Passer.

(COPY)

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
Office of

CHIEF OF POLICE
Hall of Justice

Kearny and Washington Streets

San Francisco, January 19, 1942.

To the Editor:—We hold felony warrant charging Fictitious Checks for one Catherine Secore, alias Secone, who is described as 47 years old, 5 ft., 206 lbs., gray hair. She has a very large stomach tumor, which causes her weight, and is badly in need of an operation. Subject is believed to be confined at the present time in some hospital in this state, possibly under an assumed name. Her last residence address known to us was 827 Hayes Street, this city.

We would appreciate it very much if you would pub-

lish our want on this woman in your bulletin with the request that we be notified should she come to the attention of any of your membership.

Thanking you in anticipation of your coöperation and assuring you of our willingness to reciprocate at any time, I am,

Yours very truly,
(Signed) CHARLES W. DULLEA, *Chief of Police.*

Concerning Hereditary and Environmental Influences.

To the Editor:—The evolution of the human family furnishes a most interesting study. In the early period when man lived under the law of the survival of the most fit and had to contend with the laws of nature, the weaklings fell by the wayside. The strong survived, and each succeeding generation was produced from the most fit and there was bred a race of humans strong physically and mentally who contributed much to the advancement of our social structure.

When sentimental humanitarianism took the sociological bit in its teeth and adopted the fallacy that all humans are of equal value, the criminal as the saint, the moron as the intellectual, the fool as the sage, the politician as the statesman, and that by the process of environmental improvement the criminal can be converted into a saint, the moron into an intellectual, the fool into a sage, the politician into a statesman, and if those who are able to build good environment will build enough of it for those who are not, that soon we will be living in Utopia, not realizing that the basic difference between those who can and those who cannot build good environment is biological, hereditary, and not environmental.

One of the weaknesses of our democracy is there are so many people who cannot make any contribution to society or build their own environment, and so many people needed to build this environment for them (in California over 29,000 mental degenerates in public institutions alone requiring 4000 people to care for them at an annual cost of \$12,000,000 to the taxpayer), that it creates a heavy burden on society to carry this unproductive load that could better be expended in the advancement of our democracy.

EUGENE H. PITTS, M. D.

MEDICAL EPONYM

Karell Diet

Philip J. Karell (1806-1886), physician to His Majesty, the Emperor of Russia, read a paper, "On the Milk Cure," before the Medical Society of St. Petersburg on March 8 and 23, 1865. This was first printed in the *St. Petersburger medizinische Zeitschrift* (8:193-220, 1865). A translation from the author's manuscript by Dr. G. L. Carrick appears in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal* (12, Pt. 1:97-122, 1866), and the essay in *Archives générales de médecine* (8:513-533, 694-704, 1866). A portion of the translation follows:

... After a great deal of experience, I have arrived at the conclusion, that in *all dropsies*, in *asthma*, when the result of emphysema and pulmonary catarrh, in obstinate *neuralgia*, when its cause lies in the intestinal canal, in diseases of the *liver* (simple hypertrophy and fatty degeneration), and generally in diseases where there is faulty nutrition . . . milk is the best and surest of remedies. . . .

... I generally commence the cure by employing milk *alone*, and forbidding all *other kinds of nourishment*. I proceed with great caution in prescribing for the patient, three or four times daily, and at *regularly-observed intervals*, half a tumbler or a tumbler, *i.e.*, from 2 to 6 ounces, of skimmed milk. . . . During the second week two ordinary quarts are generally administered each day.—R. W. B., in *New England Journal of Medicine*.